

REMARKS

1. The Office Action has rejected Claim 14 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out the subject matter regarded as the invention. More particularly, the Office Action states that “said beveled edge” in line 9 of Claim 14 does not have antecedent basis. In response thereto, Applicant would direct the Examiner’s attention to the amendment to Claim 14 above correcting this error. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

2. The Office Action has rejected Claim 9 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 473,512 (Laird). The Office Action states that Laird teaches a snow retention member in which the brace member extends on both sides of the body. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant would direct the Examiner’s attention to the amendments made to Claim 9 to incorporate the limitations of Claim 10, which as noted below was deemed as containing allowable subject matter. In view of this amendment, which effectively places Claim 10 into independent form, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

3. The Office Action has also rejected Claim 9 on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over figure 3 of U. S. Patent No. D519,025. In response thereto, Applicant would direct the Examiner’s attention to the amendments to Claim 9 to incorporate the limitations of dependent Claim 10, which were deemed to be allowable if placed into independent form. In view of these amendments to Claim 9, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

4. Applicant appreciates the allowance of Claims 1 - 5 and 8 and requests that these claims be passed to allowance with the other claims remaining in the instant application.

5. The Office Action has indicated that Claims 14, 15 and 17 - 20 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the 112 rejection to Claim 14. The Office Action has objected to Claims 10 - 12 as depending on a rejected base claim. The Office Action indicates that these claims would be allowable if placed into independent form.

In response thereto, Applicant has overcome the 112 rejection of Claim 14, and has combined Claims 9 and 10, while changing the dependency of Claim 11 and 12 to depend from Claim 9, and requests that Claims 11, 12, 14, 15 and 17 - 20 be passed to allowance with the other claims remaining in this application.

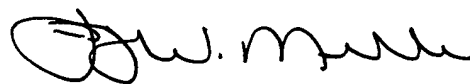
6. In summary, Claims 9, 11, 12 and 14 have been amended, Claim 10 has been canceled, and Claims 1 - 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15 and 17 - 20 remain in the application. Applicant believes that the claims are allowable based on the foregoing amendments. Applicant respectfully requests that all rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn and that all claims remaining in this case be allowed.

Pursuant to currently recommended Patent Office practice, the Examiner is expressly authorized to call the undersigned attorney if in his judgment disposition of this application could be expedited or if he considers the case ready for final disposition by other than allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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